



In The United States Patent And Trademark Office

In Re Application: Tianqing He et al.

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Art Unit: 3749

Invention: Device And Method For Rapid Drying Of Porous Materials

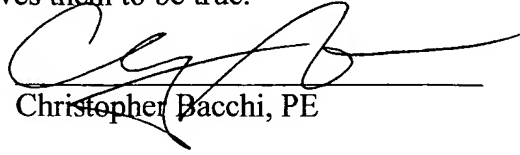
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NOW COMES the undersigned, who affirms and says:

1. My name is Christopher Bacchi and I am employed as the Laboratory Director for Trimat Materials Testing in Raleigh, NC. I have more than 8 years of asphalt laboratory testing experience.
2. For all paving operations, obtaining the proper compaction, or density, is vital to overall quality. Prior to the introduction of the Core Dry, testing for density usually took at least one full day, since cores would have to be dried sufficiently prior to testing using conventional methods, such as an oven or fan.
3. I am familiar with the operation of the Core Dry and have used it in my lab and in the field.
4. The Core Dry constitutes an important advance in asphalt testing. Prior to the Core Dry, asphalt core samples would have to be dried in an oven or in front of a fan and usually take up to 24 hours. With the Core Dry, it is possible to obtain a dry sample for density testing in less than 1 hour.
5. The Core Dry has met a long standing need in the field and lab to be able to quickly and effectively dry asphalt core samples for density testing. Before the Core Dry was introduced, there was no other effective device available to dry an asphalt core sample in the same or similar amount of time.

The undersigned, being warned that will false statements and the like are punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both under Title 28 U.S.C. 1001, states that the above information is true as to those things stated on information and belief and as to those things the undersigned believes them to be true.

This the 19th day of August, 2006



Christopher Bacchi, PE